

reclose child-resistant packaging, keep poisonous substances secured and out of the reach of children, and keep the poison center telephone number, 1-800-222-1222, nearby in case of an emergency. This new nationwide number connects callers to medical experts that provide immediate treatment advice for poison emergencies. These centers are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To encourage Americans to learn more about the dangers of unintentional poisonings and to take more preventive measures, the Congress, by joint resolution approved September 26, 1961, as amended (75 Stat. 681), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week of March each year as "National Poison Prevention Week."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim March 17 through 23, 2002, as National Poison Prevention Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week by participating in appropriate ceremonies and activities and by learning how to prevent poisonings among children.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 18, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on March 19.

Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada

March 14, 2002

President Bush. It's my honor to welcome the Prime Minister of Canada, a personal friend and a great friend of America, back to the White House. We had a wide-ranging discussion on a lot of topics, starting with how appreciative I am of his steadfast support and the Canadian Government's steadfast support and the Canadian people's steadfast support in our war against terror. We know the

Canadians have put troops on the ground in Afghanistan, and they have performed brilliantly. For that, we are grateful.

We also talked about our border. We've got a great relationship on our border. We've had a series of meaningful discussions on putting reforms in place. I believe our border cooperation is going to be the model for not only our hemisphere but also for the world.

We also talked about trade issues. Canada is a massive trading partner with the United States, and it's an important trading partner of the United States. And like any relationship that has got a lot of issues, sometimes we run into rough spots. And one such issue is softwood lumber. But our negotiators, as a result of the Prime Minister's assistance and my assistance, are working overtime to achieve an agreement by March the 21st. We're making very good progress. And we've agreed to keep working hard to achieve an agreement that is satisfactory to both parties, and I believe we can achieve that.

So, Mr. Prime Minister, thank you very much for coming.

Oh, by the way, we talked energy. It's important for the American people to know that as a result of our trade agreements with Canada and our close relations, Canada is a significant supplier of energy to the United States. And that's positive. It's much better for us to be securing our energy from a friend and a stable friend and a partner.

And so I appreciate the Canadian energy business. I appreciate the exploration that's going on. It is good for our economy. I shared with the Prime Minister—I'm optimistic about our economy. We've still got some rough spots, but it looks like we may be improving. And if we are, that will be good news for both of us.

So, Mr. Prime Minister, welcome back. It is my honor to serve you dinner again, and it's a thrill to be with you.

Prime Minister Chretien. Thank you, Mr. President. I cannot add to what the President said. He covered the ground very well. I think the relations between America and Canada could not be better. We are solving problems when we have one. We are working with America in the war against terrorism. Our troops are in the fight at this moment in Afghanistan. You know, in the

snow, we're good at it, President, you know. And we——

President Bush. You're good on the ice, too. [*Laughter*]

Prime Minister Chretien. We are good on the ice, too—and both men and women. [*Laughter*] And so—and we have to work on our other problems. Thank you for the statement you made on softwood lumber. I think that the defense of our values and against terrorism are extremely important for Canadians. And we have worked very well together.

For me, I should say a few words in French, with your permission.

President Bush. Please

Prime Minister Chretien. Can you translate after that? [*Laughter*]

[*At this point, Prime Minister Chretien spoke in French and then resumed speaking in English.*]

I want to tell you that we spoke about Africa, and I want to say—I said that in French—I want to say thank you for what you have announced today, about the programs that you have announced, because as you know, at Kananaskis in Canada, at the G-8, the main topic will be Africa. And we want to establish a partnership with them. They came to Genoa last June; you and our colleagues asked me to take—[*inaudible*—] at that time. And I think that the partnership, and with your contribution, is developing very well.

Next month I will be traveling in Africa for—visiting five or six countries to build a partnership but to reward good governance, human rights, to make sure that they have real democracies, and so on. And those who don't do that will have to—not to be rewarded, because they will not meet what the world wants.

So thank you again, Mr. President.

For the press, I will take questions after my dinner. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:10 p.m. in the Colonnade at the White House.

Memorandum on Designation of Bahrain as a Major Non-NATO Ally *March 14, 2002*

Presidential Determination No. 2002-10

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Designation of Bahrain as a Major Non-Nato Ally

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, by section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (the "Act"), I hereby designate the Kingdom of Bahrain as a major non-NATO ally of the United States for the purposes of the Act and the Arms Export Control Act.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 15.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2003 *March 14, 2002*

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed requests for FY 2003 budget amendments for the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Labor, Transportation, and the Treasury; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2003 Budget would not be increased by these requests. However, the total budgetary resources available to the Department of Transportation would increase by \$596 million.

This transmittal also contains FY 2003 budget amendments for the Legislative Branch. As a matter of comity, appropriations requests of the Legislative Branch are transmitted without change. These additional amendments would increase discretionary resources for the Legislative Branch by \$40.4 million.